

# **Unit 3: Geography of the Western Hemisphere**



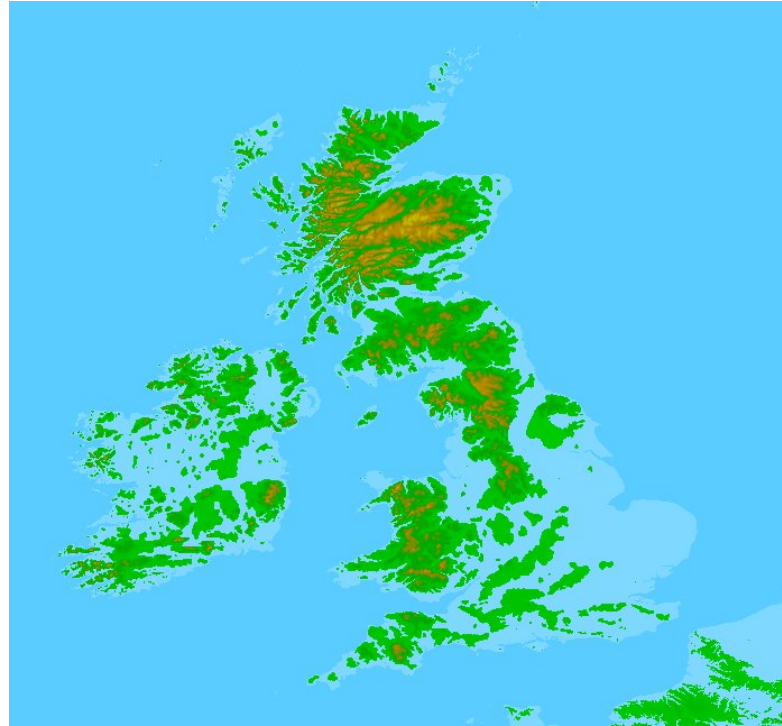
## **Illustrated Glossary**

# adapt



to change in order to fit new conditions

# archipelago



a group or chain of islands clustered together in a sea or ocean

# bay



**an inlet of a body of water (as the sea)  
that is usually smaller than a gulf**

# bodies of water



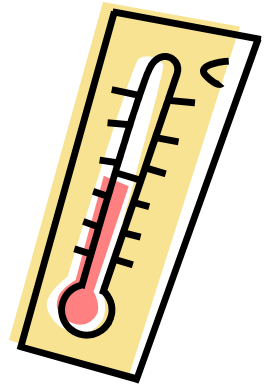
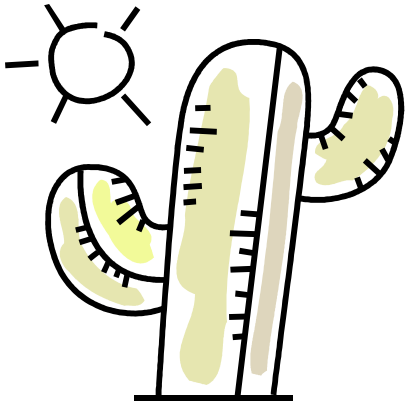
Water in different sizes and shapes naturally found on the Earth's surface. Oceans, seas, bays, lakes, rivers, and ponds are examples of bodies of water

# border



a boundary especially of a country or state

# climate



local weather conditions of an area like temperature, precipitation, humidity, sunshine, wind and other conditions

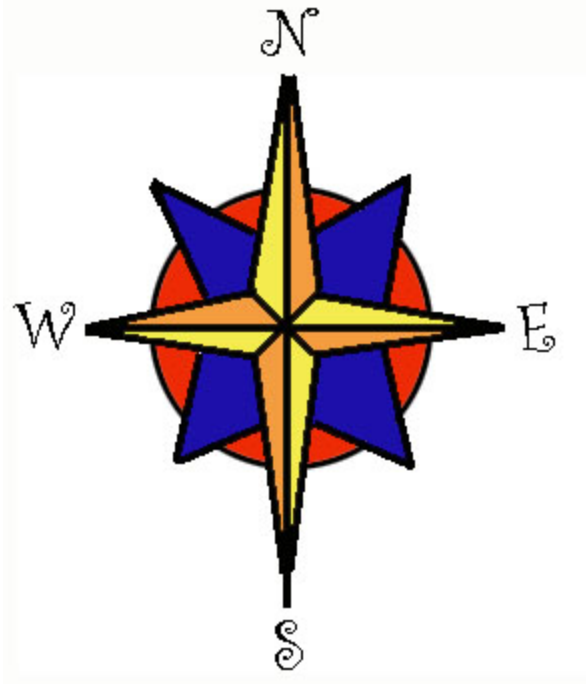
# coast



the land next to the ocean

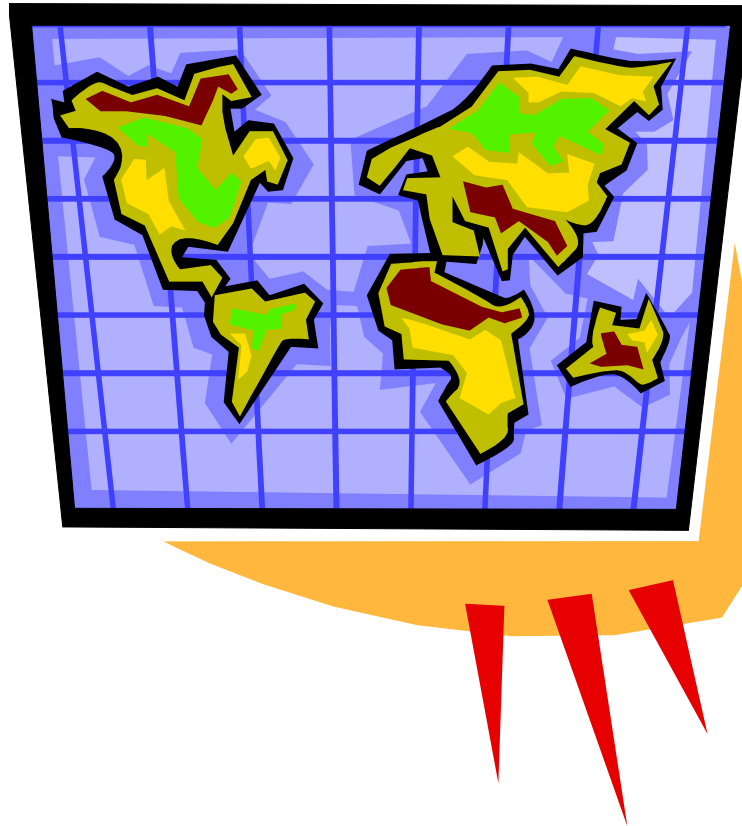


# Compass Rose



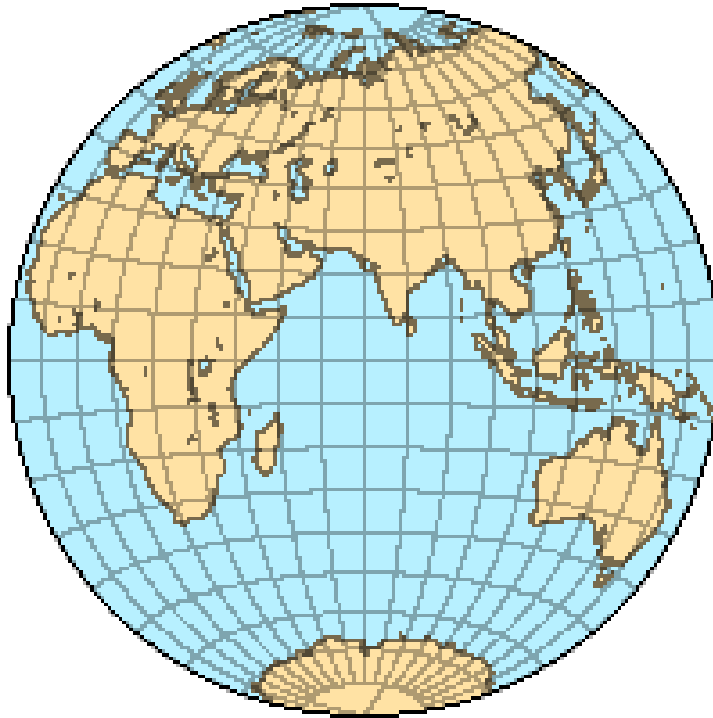
a symbol that shows the directions:  
north, south, east, and west

# continent



a very large body of land

# degrees



the unit of measurement used for  
latitude and longitude

# delta



a low, watery land formed at the mouth of a river. It is formed from the silt, sand and small rocks that flow downstream in the river and are deposited in the delta

# desert



an area with less than ten inches of rain per year and a rocky sandy surface

# eastern hemisphere



the half of Earth east of the Prime  
Meridian

# environment



the geographic characteristics that surround  
and affect the way people live

# environment concerns/issues



interests people have about the care of  
the natural environment



# forest



an area where coniferous and deciduous trees are the most dominant plant. Deciduous trees share their leaves in the fall. Coniferous trees include trees that have pinecones, such as fir and spruce.

# geography

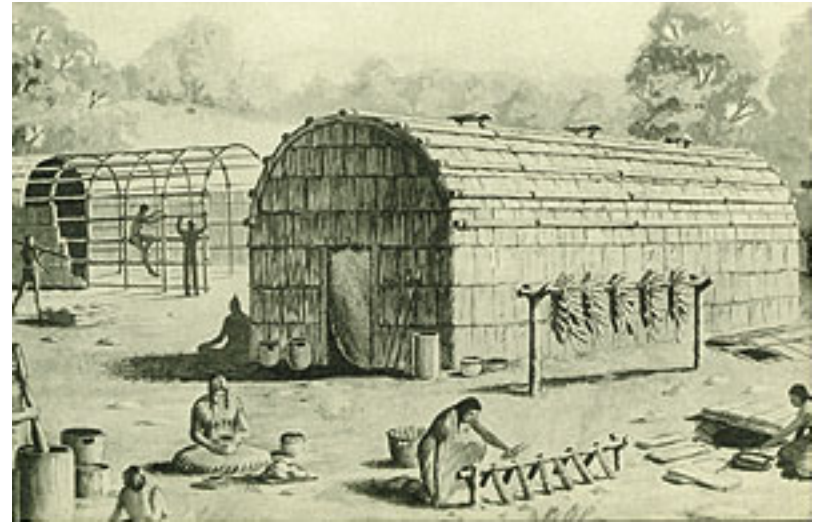


description of the natural environment of a place. It includes physical features (landforms and bodies of water), weather and climate, soil, vegetation, and animal life.

# geographic characteristics



physical



human

things that distinguish one place from another. These are divided into two groups: physical and human

# grasslands



flat or rolling areas of land covered with grasses If located in North America, they are called prairies. In South America they are called pampas.

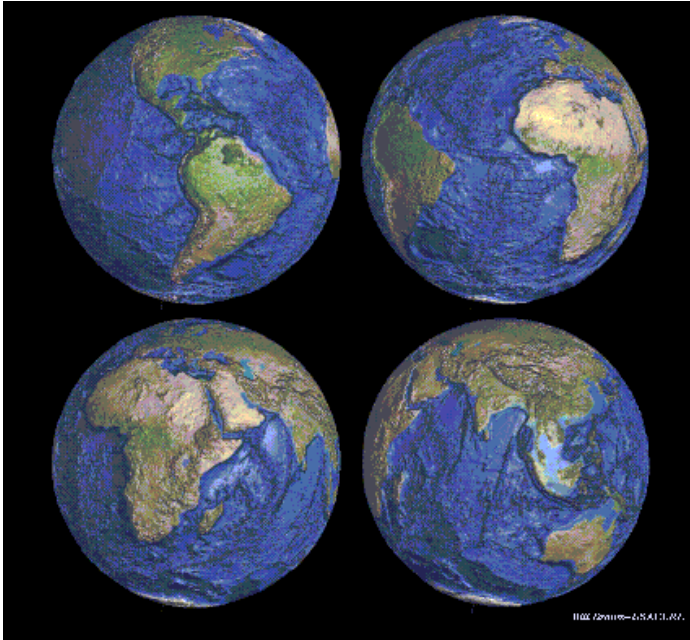


# **gulf**



a large body of water that cuts deep into the land

# hemisphere



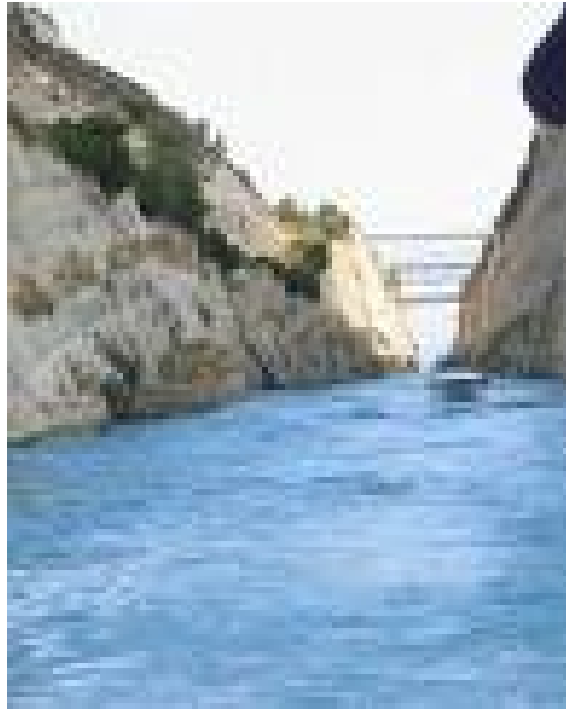
half of the globe or half of the earth The four hemispheres are northern, southern, eastern, and western

# human/environmental interaction



explains how people live in their environment

# isthmus



a narrow strip of land connecting two larger landmasses. An isthmus has water on two sides



# island



a piece of land that has water all around it

# landforms



the different shapes of Earth's surface - mountains, hills, plateaus, plains, valleys, peninsulas, and islands are examples of landforms

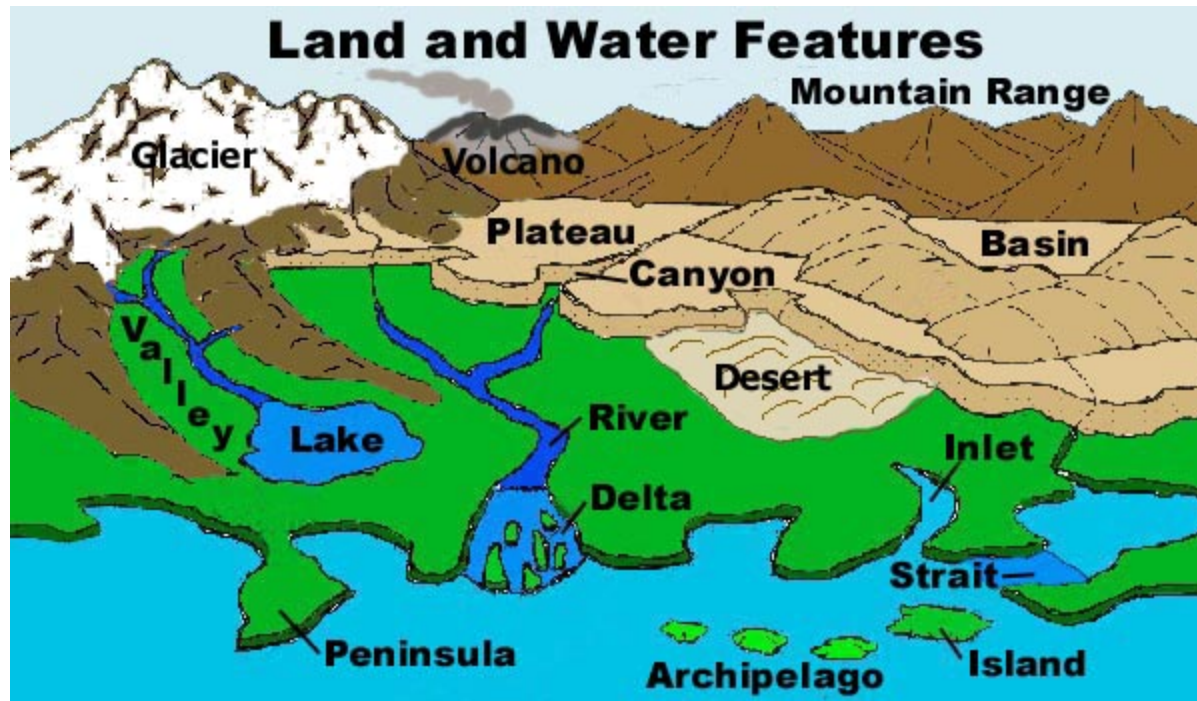
# lake



a body of salt or fresh water that is  
surrounded by land



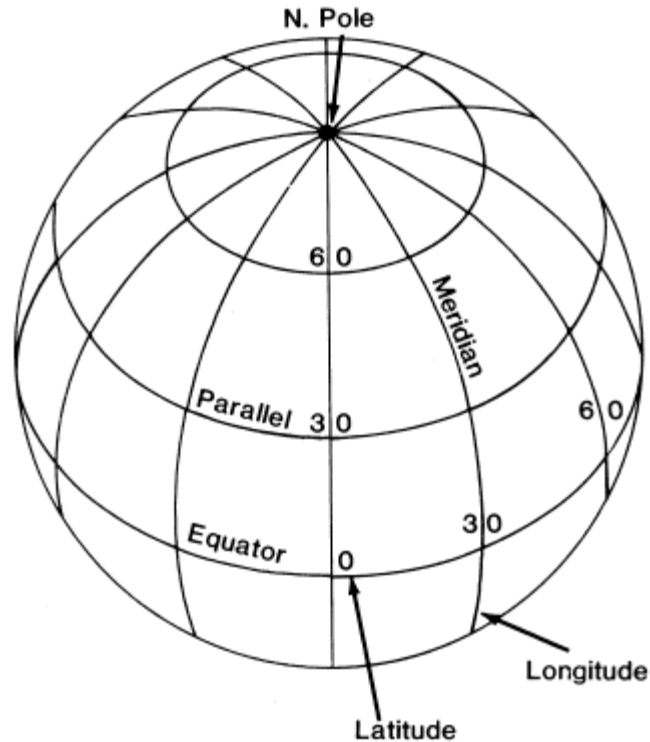
# landform



[msfell.weebly.com](http://msfell.weebly.com)

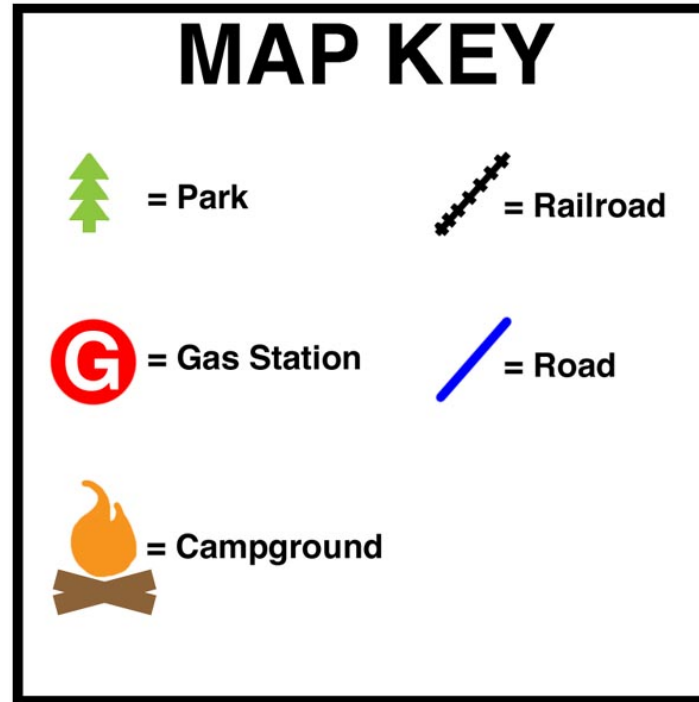
a natural feature of the earth's  
surface

# latitude/longitude



imaginary lines on a map or globe that measure distance north and south of the Equator and distance east and west of the Prime Meridian

# legend/key



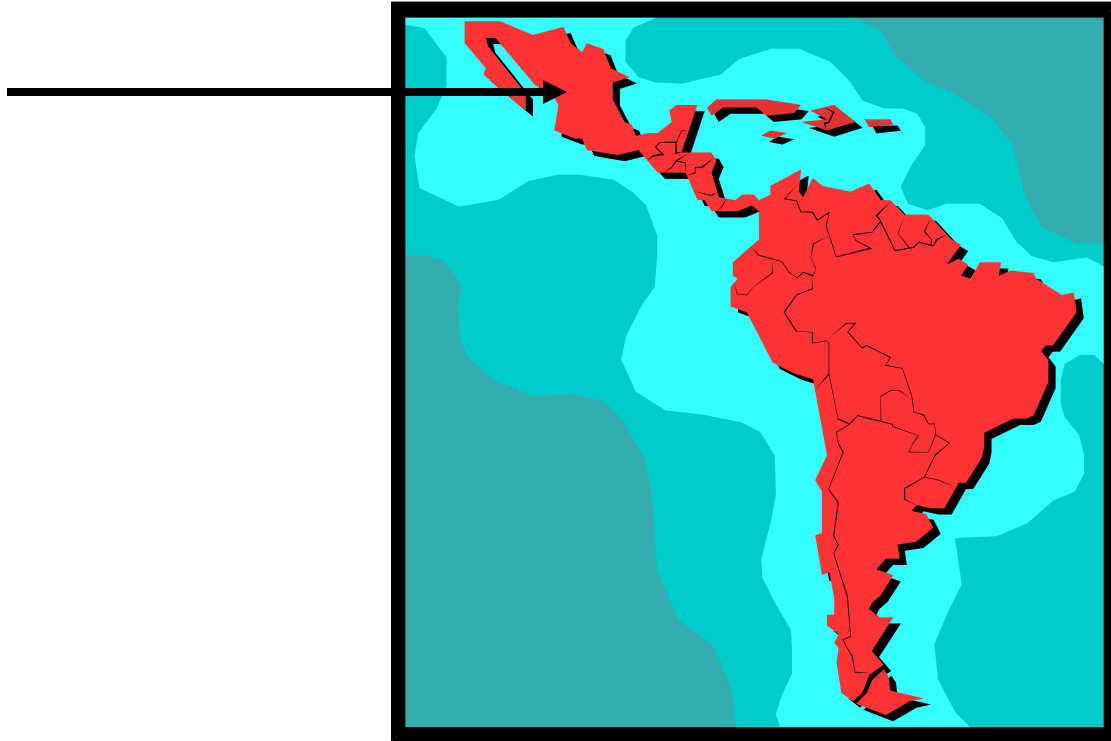
explains the meaning of the symbols on the map

# marsh



an area of soft wet land usually overgrown  
by grasses

# Mesoamerica



Southern part of North America extending from Mexico to  
northwestern Columbia



# migrate/migration/immigration



to move from one country or region to another with the intent of staying at the place for a long period of time

# mountain



a land form that is very high and steep.  
They are usually are wide at the bottom  
and rise to a narrow peak or ridge

# natural environment



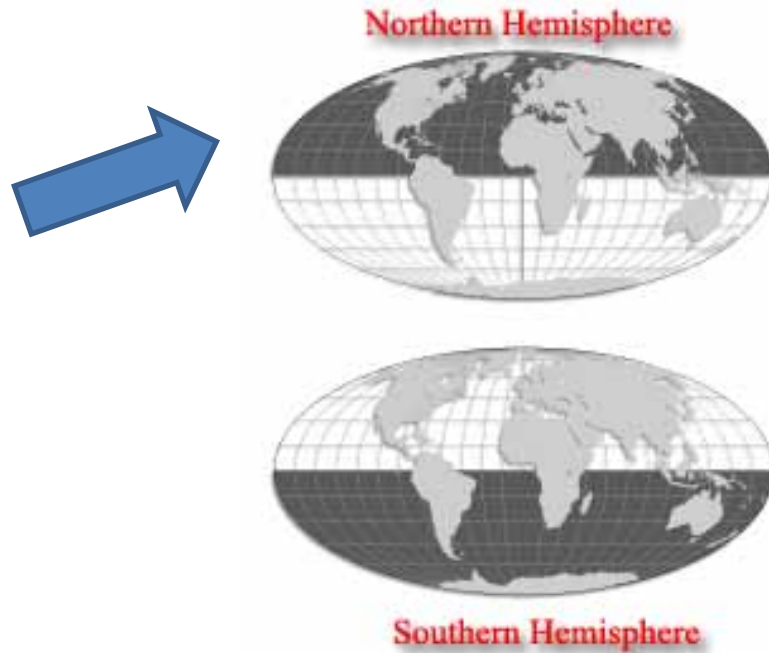
the physical setting of a place including  
the land, air ,water, plants, and  
animals

# North America



continent comprising Greenland, United States,  
and Canada

# Northern Hemisphere



the half of the earth north of the Equator

# ocean



a large body of saltwater



# pampas



[sharonandjack-lasamericas.blogspot.com](http://sharonandjack-lasamericas.blogspot.com)

the vast fertile grassy plains of  
southern South America

# physical map



a map that shows landforms

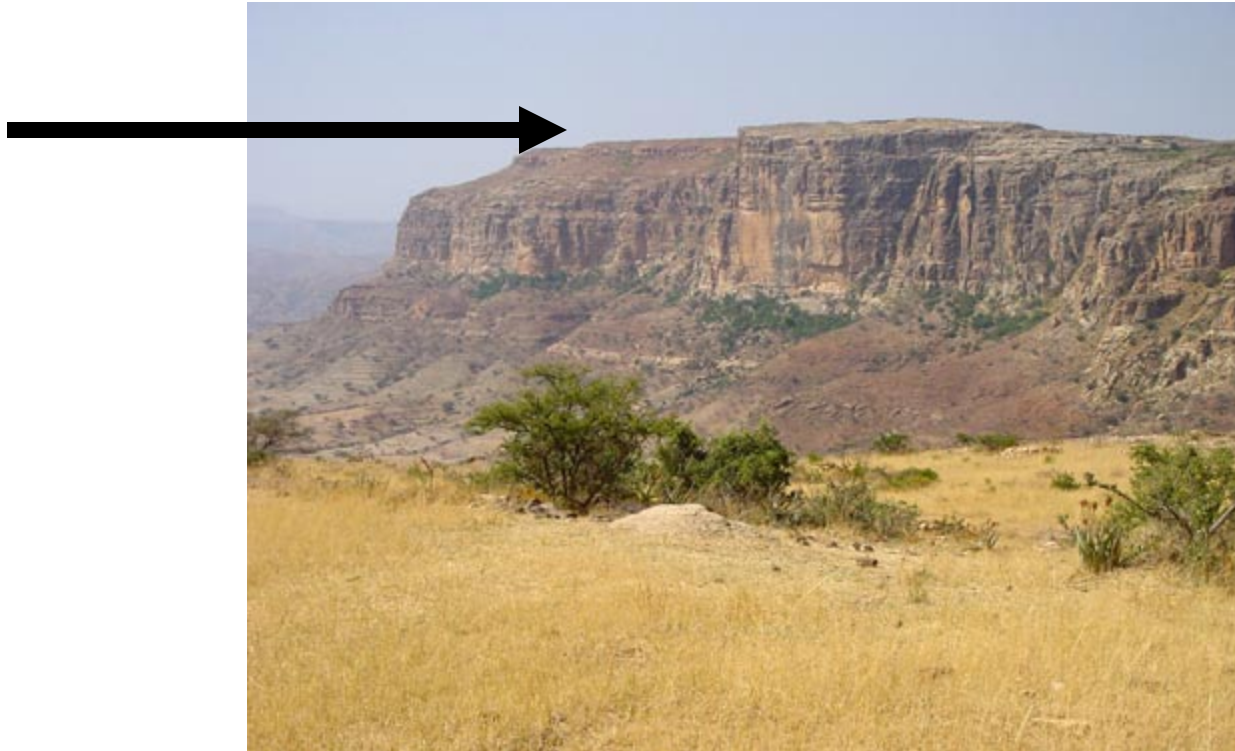


# plains



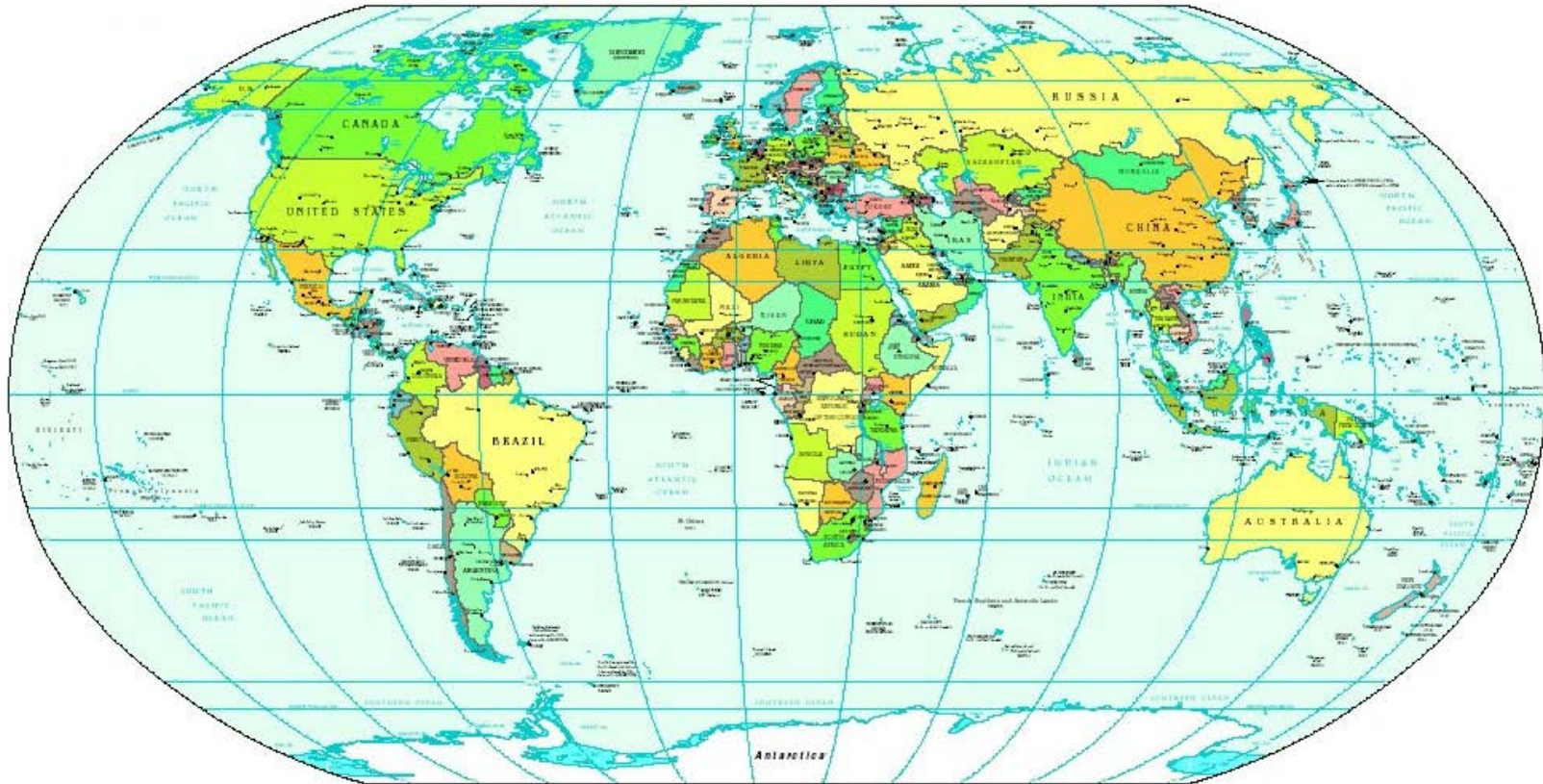
large areas of flat lands

# plateau



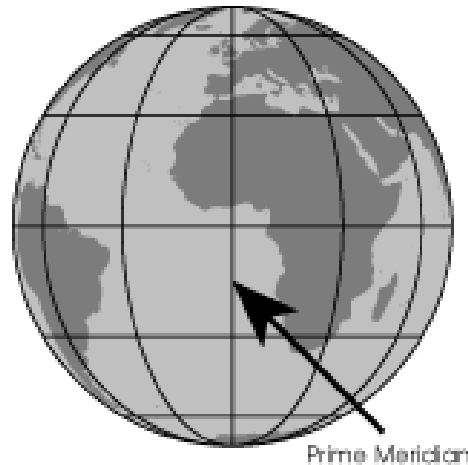
high, flat land

# political map



a map that shows location and borders of countries and communities

# Prime Meridian



the line of longitude from the South Pole to the North Pole measured in degrees. It divides Earth into Eastern and Western Hemispheres



# population density



the number of people living per  
square mile

# prairie

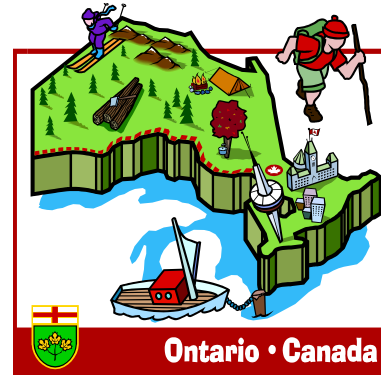


[www.glogster.com](http://www.glogster.com)

a large open area of grassland



# province



an administrative district or division of a country

# rainforest



a dense, either tropical or temperate forest that receives lots of rain year round

# region



a broad geographic area

# resources



things that people can use, such as oil, lumber, and water that come from nature

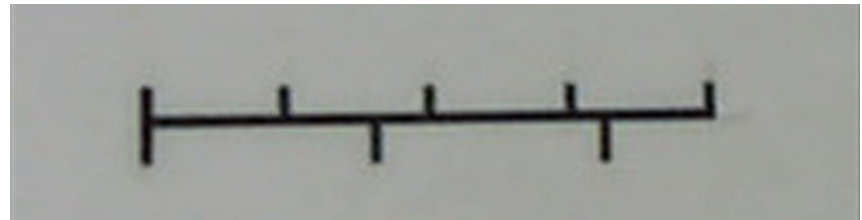
# river



flow of water that goes to an ocean or  
lake



# scale



the measurement on a map or globe that shows the distance between places



# settlement



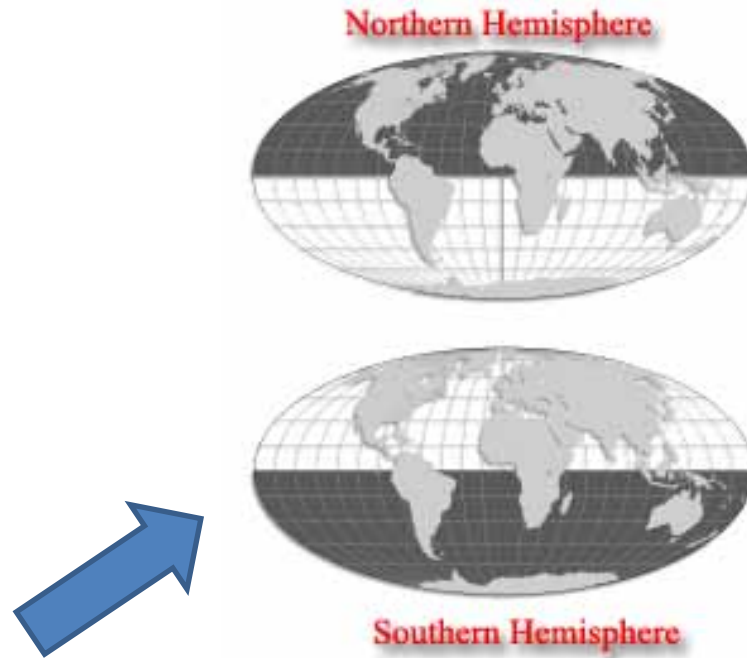
an arrangement of places where people live, including rural and urban centers

# South America



the entire Western Hemisphere  
continent south of Mesoamerica

# Southern Hemisphere



the half of the earth south of the  
equator

# strait



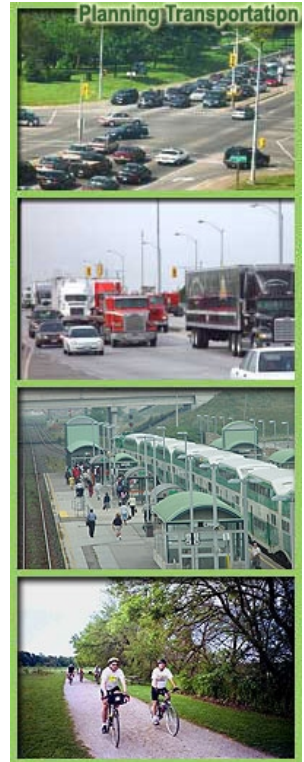
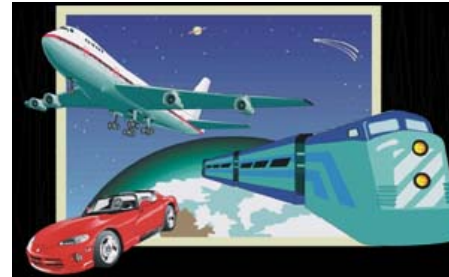
a narrow body of water that connects two  
larger bodies of water

# technology



skills methods, tools, machines and other things used of perform activities. Technology changes over time and affects the way we live work, and play

# transportation



ways goods and people move from place to place thereby linking communities



# tropics



the area on the earth between the  $23\frac{1}{2}$  degrees N and  $23\frac{1}{2}$  S lines of latitude, where the climate is almost always hot

# tundra



a cold, dry region covered with snow for more than half the year; vast treeless plain where the subsoil is always frozen

# valley



area of low land with mountains or hills  
on either side, often having a river or  
stream along the bottom

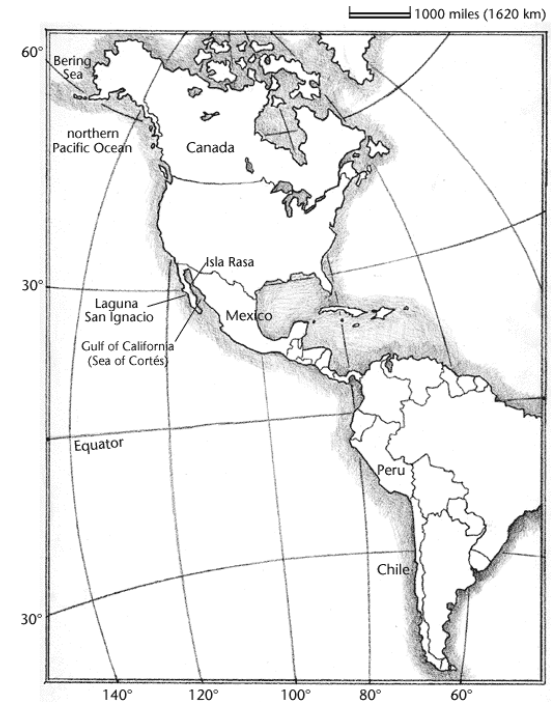
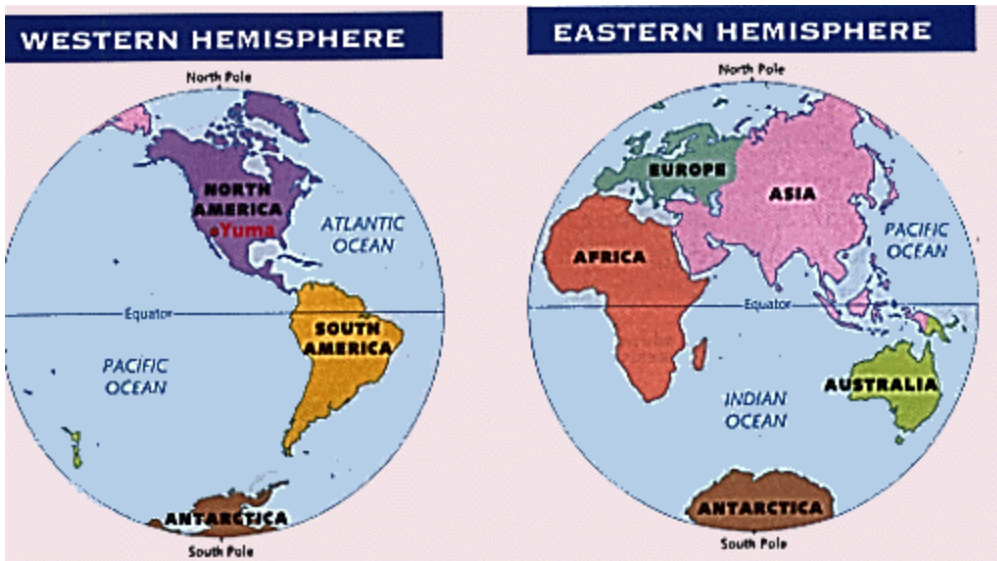
# vegetation



all the plant life found in an area



# Western Hemisphere



the half of the earth comprising North and South America and their surrounding waters west of the Prime Meridian